

Please amend Claims 39-41 as follows:

1       39. (Once Amended) A grid for a battery comprising:  
2                    a network bordered by at least one frame element, one of the frame  
3                    elements having a current collector lug;  
4                    the network comprising a plurality of spaced apart wire elements, each wire  
5                    element having opposed ends, each opposed end being joined to one of a plurality of  
6                    nodes to define a plurality of open spaces;  
7                    a lead alloy coated on substantially all surfaces of the network;  
8                    at least a portion of the wire elements having a first transverse cross-section  
9                    taken at a position intermediate the opposed ends of the wire element and a second  
10                  transverse cross-section taken at one of the opposed ends of the wire element.

1       40. (Once Amended) The grid of Claim 39 wherein the second transverse cross-  
2       section is substantially rectangular.

1       41. (Once Amended) The grid of Claim 39 wherein the first transverse cross-  
2       section has a shape selected from group consisting of diamond, oval, rhomboid, hexagon,  
3       and octagon.

1       42. (New) The grid of Claim 39 wherein the lead alloy comprises a lead-tin alloy.

1       43. (New) The grid of Claim 42 wherein the lead-tin alloy comprises about 90  
2       weight percent to about 99 weight percent lead and about 1 weight percent to about 10  
3       weight percent tin.

1       44. (New) The grid of Claim 43 wherein the lead-tin alloy further includes  
2       antimony.

1 45. (New) The grid of Claim 42 wherein the lead-tin alloy comprises about 80  
2 weight percent to about 98 weight percent lead, about 1 weight percent to about 10  
3 weight percent tin, and about 1 weight percent to about 10 weight percent antimony.

1 46. (New) The grid of Claim 45 wherein the coating has a melting point less  
2 than about 620 degrees Fahrenheit.

1 47. (New) The grid of Claim 43 wherein the network comprises a lead-calcium  
2 alloy.

1 48. (New) The grid of Claim 47 wherein the lead-calcium alloy comprises about  
2 0.06 weight percent to about 0.07 weight percent calcium.

1 49. (New) The grid of Claim 48 wherein the lead-calcium alloy comprises at  
2 least about 0.8 weight percent tin.

1 50. (New) The grid of Claim 49 wherein the lead-calcium alloy comprises about  
2 1.2 weight percent to about 1.5 weight percent tin.

1 51. (New) The grid of Claim 50 wherein the lead-calcium alloy comprises tin in a  
2 ratio to calcium of greater than about 12:1.

1 52. (New) The grid of Claim 51 wherein the lead-calcium alloy comprises at  
2 least about 0 to about 0.02 weight percent silver.

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1 53. (New) A grid for a battery comprising:  
2 a network bordered by at least one frame element comprising:  
3 a plurality of spaced apart wires having a plurality of surfaces;  
4 a plurality of apertures stamped between the plurality of spaced apart  
5 wires;  
6 a coating comprising a lead alloy on the plurality of surfaces of the plurality  
7 of spaced apart wires;  
8 wherein the coating is configured to couple an active material to the  
9 network.

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1 54. (New) The grid of Claim 53 wherein the plurality of spaced apart wires  
2 include a plurality of planar surfaces.

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1 55. (New) The grid of Claim 54 wherein the plurality of apertures are defined by  
2 surfaces that are transverse to the plurality of planar surfaces.

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1 56. (New) The grid of Claim 55 wherein the coating is disposed on the surfaces  
2 that are transverse to the plurality of planar surfaces.

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1 57. (New) The grid of Claim 53 wherein the lead alloy comprises a lead-tin alloy  
2 comprising about 90 weight percent to about 99 weight percent lead and about 1 weight  
3 percent to about 10 weight percent tin.

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1 58. (New) The grid of Claim 57 wherein the lead-tin alloy further includes  
2 antimony.

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1 59. (New) The grid of Claim 53 wherein the lead alloy comprises a lead-tin alloy  
2 comprising about 80 weight percent to about 98 weight percent lead, about 1 weight  
3 percent to about 10 weight percent tin, and about 1 weight percent to about 10 weight  
4 percent antimony.

1 60. (New) The grid of Claim 59 wherein the coating has a melting point less  
2 than about 620 degrees Fahrenheit.

1 61. (New) The grid of Claim 59 wherein the at least one frame element includes  
2 a current collector lug.

1 62. (New) The grid of Claim 59 wherein the active material comprises a paste.

1 63. (New) The grid of Claim 59 wherein the wire includes a first transverse  
2 cross-section taken at a position intermediate an end of the wire and a second transverse  
3 cross-section taken at the end of the wire.

1 64. (New) A grid for a battery comprising:  
2 means for supporting an active material and having a plurality of exposed  
3 surfaces;  
4 means for coating the means for supporting the active material;  
5 wherein the means for coating substantially covers the plurality of exposed  
6 surfaces.

1 65. (New) The grid of Claim 64 wherein the means for supporting the active  
2 material comprises a network bordered by at least one frame element.

1 66. (New) The grid of Claim 65 wherein the means for supporting the active  
2 material comprises a plurality of spaced apart wires having a plurality of surfaces.

1 67. (New) The grid of Claim 66 wherein the means for supporting the active  
2 material comprises a plurality of apertures stamped between the plurality of spaced apart  
3 wires.

1 68. (New) The grid of Claim 67 wherein the means for coating comprises a  
2 coating comprising a lead alloy on the plurality of surfaces of the a plurality of spaced  
3 apart wires.

1 69. (New) The grid of Claim 68 wherein the plurality of spaced apart wires  
2 include a plurality of planar surfaces.

1 70. (New) The grid of Claim 69 wherein the plurality of apertures are defined by  
2 surfaces that are transverse to the plurality of planar surfaces.

1 71. (New) The grid of Claim 70 wherein the coating is disposed on the surfaces  
2 that are transverse to the plurality of planar surfaces.

1 72. (New) The grid of Claim 64 wherein means for coating comprises a lead-tin  
2 alloy comprising about 90 weight percent to about 99 weight percent lead and about 1  
3 weight percent to about 10 weight percent tin.

1 73. (New) The grid of Claim 72 wherein the lead-tin alloy further includes  
2 antimony.

1 74. (New) The grid of Claim 68 wherein the coating comprises about 80 weight  
2 percent to about 98 weight percent lead, about 1 weight percent to about 10 weight  
3 percent tin, and about 1 weight percent to about 10 weight percent antimony.

1 75. (New) The grid of Claim 74 wherein the coating has a melting point less  
2 than about 620 degrees Fahrenheit.